

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035864

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:JHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035864

TOSEC 406

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 035864 SENT ACTION GENEVA DATED
17 FEBRUARY 1975:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035864

TOSEC 406

FOLL REPEAT TEHRAN 1483 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN THE HAGUE
BRUSSELS LUXEMBOURG DUBLIN PARIS COPENHAGEN ROME LONDON GENEVA
17 FEB 75 QUOTE
C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1483

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USMISSION EC; PARIS ALSO FOR USMISSION OECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EEC, IR

SUBJ: RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 10154

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1. FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS NADIM

SUMMONED DCM MIKLOS MORNING OF FEBRUARY 17 AND INFORMED HIM THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED ON INSTRUCTUION FROM THE SHAH TO RAISE WITH US OFFICIALLY THE QUESTION OF OUR OPPOSITION TO IRAN'S ACQUIRING SPECIAL PREFERENCES IN THE EEC ESPECIALLY FOR OIL REFINERY PRODUCTS. HE SAID THAT IRAN HAD BEEN HEARING FROM VARIOUS EUROPEAN CAPITALS THAT WHILE EEC MEMBERS WERE GENERALLY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD GRANTING IRAN SPECIAL PREFERENCES, THEY WERE UNABLE TO DO SO BECAUSE OF INTENSE US OPPOSITION.

2. MIKLOS RECALLED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ANSARY EVENING OF NOVEMBER EP (REFTEL). HE SAID THAT AT THAT TIME HE HAD CAREFULL EXPLAINED TO ANSARY THAT THE US WAS NOT IN ANY OPPOSED TO PREFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR IRAN PER SE, BUT THAT WE WERE OPPOSED TO THE PROLIFERATION OF PREFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE EEC-MEDITERRANEAN AREA GENERALLY. IT WAS BY COINCIDENCE RATHER THAN DESIGN, THEREFORE, THAT OUR OPPOSITION HAD BECOME FOCUSSED ON THE IRANIAN CASE. MIKLOS SAID THAT HE BELIEVED ANSARY UNDERSTOOD OUR POSITION CLEARLY WHEN HE COMMENTED THAT US OPPOSITION NOTWITHSTANDING IRAN INTENDED TO PURSUE THAT MATTER BILATERALLY WITH EEC COUNTRIES. MIKLOS SAID THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THIS WAS PRECISELY THE TACTIC IRAN HAD FOLLOWED SUBSEQUENTLY.

3. NADIM AGREED THAT OUR UNDERSTANDING WAS CORRECT. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN HAD APPARENTLY UNDER-ESTIMATED THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR OPPOSITION. ACCORDINGLY, HE WANTED US TO KNOW THAT THE SHAH INTENDS TO TAKE THIS SUBJECT UP WITH THE SECRETARY WHEN HE SEES HIM IN ZURICH ON FEBRUARY 18. HELMS UNQUOTE INGERSOLL UNQTE INGERSOLL

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